

Time	Activity
09.00	Set up trade and members stands
09.30	Doors open, sales begin. Tea and coffee available.
10.30	Simon Tarrant (Chairman) Introduction
10.35	Kevin Walker – Secrecy, infamy & the recovery of the Lady's Slipper in Britain I will give some context about the history of the plant in Britain, including attempts to keep its presence a secret and some shenanigans surrounding its conservation during the post war years when word started to leak out. The bulk of the talk will focus on the long term programme to protect the wild plant and reintroduce it to former sites throughout its British range. I'll finish off with some conclusions about how the species is faring and how we might conserve it in the future given climate change and vegetation changes due to changes in grazing pressure. Information about Kevin – He is the Head of Science for the BSBI managing all their recording and monitoring projects as well as their data holdings. Kevin also carries out research on a wide range of species / topics having been involved in the conservation of this species since 1993 when he wardened the wild site in Wharfedale. Over the last decade becoming much more heavily involved as an active member of the Cypripedium Committee, undertaking monitoring, management, hand-pollination, ex situ work, as well as looking into the environmental conditions of all its native and reintroduced sites.
11.20	Short break
11.30	Dave Trudgill – Changes to (& at) the past, current and potential northern limits to orchids in Britain Based on his experience of growing orchids from seed spread across their meadow Dave will explore with us the differences between the orchid species they have and will try to provide a realistic assessment of their utility as a means of introducing orchids to new sites. Information about Dave – He was the Head of Zoology Department at the Scottish Crop Research Institute. This involved applying science and analytical approaches to biological issues. Dave believes that the majority of HOS members should do more to sustain our hardy orchids for future generations in any way they can.

	
12.00	Judy Kingston – My mini meadow Judy's talk will cover the inspiration for making a meadow and checking out her garden, particularly a side lawn, for plants that were already growing there. I will discuss sourcing plants, including orchids, researching their growing requirements and adding them to the site, as well as carrying out English meadow care. This has given me much pleasure in watching, waiting, tweaking and enjoying the results. Information about Judy – Now a retired teacher of Biology in a sixth form college. Judy has a love of nature and growing plants and enjoyed the local countryside from not long after she could walk. Camping and walking in natural areas in France for many years, allowed her to depict nature in paintings and mosaics, as well as orchid hunting holidays in Europe. Since her son moved to USA, orchid hunting has gone transatlantic, mainly with the North American Orchid Society. Taking photos with her phone and learning to create photo collages and to put text onto photos is also an interest.  
12.30	Video competition
12.50	Lunch
13.50	Neil Barrett – Orchids of Britain & the Mediterranean The talk will cover many of the British and Mediterranean species in a logical way, organised by genera, habitat type etc. Where appropriate, the botany and biology of the appropriate species is covered. Given the very large numbers of Mediterranean species, it is not possible to cover all of them, but rather a representative cross-section of what you might find. Information about Neil - He first became interested in British orchids when he was about 30 years old, and a few years later this extended to include European (mainly Mediterranean) orchids. This has continued to the present day. Being retired for a number of years, his interest has not

waned! Botany in general, orchids in particular, is his main hobby, which also includes photography.



14.50 Tea Break

15.10 Video Competition Results

15.20 Hamish Sinclair – Hardy Orchids in West & Central Crete

I was fortunate enough to be part of a bursary trip to Crete in April 2024 with six other horticulturalists from Kew, Glasgow Botanical Gardens, The Newt and RHS Wisley. We wanted to see orchids in the wild to get inspiration on how orchids could be incorporated into public gardens and displayed to maximise the visitor experience. My talk will cover some of the areas we went to and the wonderful orchids we saw in Crete.

Information about Hamish – I retired in 2019 after an engineering career in the rail industry stretching 40 years. Currently volunteering three days a week at the RHS garden at Wisley in the Rock and Alpine team. I have written over 55 diaries that are published on the AGS website:

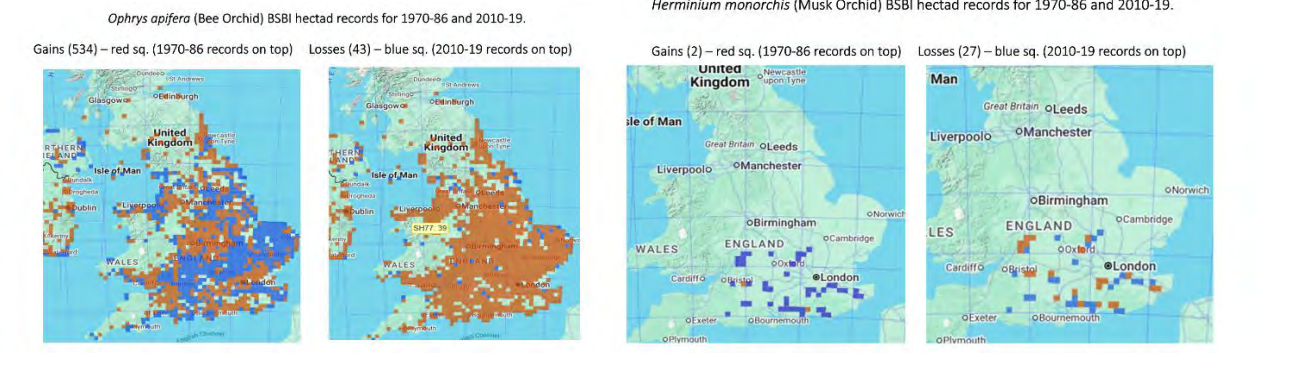
<https://alpinegardensociety.net/news/category/author/hamish-sinclair>

Having completed the HOS seed sowing workshop in 2019 I have grown a number of orchids from seed, that have gone into the Alpine Display House, at Wisley. My hope is to get more into various parts of the garden so that some of our 1.5m visitors a year will see and appreciate the charm of hardy orchids.



15.50 Dave Trudgill – Seed & its effectiveness as a means of introducing orchids to new sites

The potential is examined for 23 southerly-distributed species to extend their range northwards in response to global warming. It is found that since the 1970’s most species have not done so, their abundance has decreased and several have retreated southwards. The exceptions clearly demonstrate there is a potential for most species to spread northwards but that is not being exploited.



16.20	Simon Tarrant Chairman’s closing remarks
16.30	Meeting ends. Hall must be vacated by 5pm